

ble interest, while not comparable in importance to those around Verdun, are happening in other war theaters.

From Persia comes the Russian announcement that the important city of Kermanshah has been taken by storm by Russian forces. Recent Petrograd advices have indicated an expectation that the southern movement of this Russian army might eventually link the British and the Russian forces in the neighboring Mesopotamia. The advance to Kermanshah places the Russian column within 150 miles of Kut-el-Amara, on the Tigris, near which a British force is at present stalled on its march to the relief of General Townshend's beleaguered army at Kut.

In Albania the Austrians are evidently having things all their own way, particularly in the territory as far south as Durazzo. An official statement issued in Rome admits the evacuation of Durazzo by the Italians, who recently were reported to have been defeated on the outskirts of the city by the Austrians.

FRENCH PENETRATE FIRST GERMAN TRENCHES

BERLIN, February 26 (via London).—The French forces in the Champagne have made an attack on the German positions south of St. Marie-a-Py. The War Office statement to-day says the French penetrated the first German trenches over a distance of about 250 yards.

It was announced by the German War Office to-day that the capture of the village of Champneville, in the Verdun sector, reported yesterday, was based on erroneous information.

The statement follows: "Western front: On the night of February 25 an advance by a British detachment east of Arras was repulsed."

In the Champagne the French made an attack south of the St. Marie-a-Py position, which they captured on February 12. They succeeded in penetrating our first-line trenches over a width of about 250 yards.

"East of the Meuse considerable advances were made on the battle front in the presence of the King-Emperor. Our brave troops gained possession of the hills southwest of the village of Louvemont and the group of fortified positions situated to the east thereof. In the fierce rush forward Brandenburg regiments pushed on as far as the village and armored fort of Douaumont, which they carried by storm."

"In the plain of the Woëvre the enemy's resistance broke down along the entire front as far as the neighborhood of Marbœville (Marcheville), to the south of the national high road from Paris to Metz. Our troops are closely pursuing the retreating enemy."

"The capture of the village of Champneville, reported yesterday, was based on an erroneous report."

"Eastern theater: Apart from successful engagements participated in by our vanguards, there is nothing to report."

"Balkan theater: The situation is unchanged."

The German statement indicates a development of the attack along a wide front to the south and east of the region north of Verdun, along which pressure hitherto has been exerted. The road from Paris to Metz referred to runs through Verdun, passing directly to the southeast.

It is along this front that the German forces are attacking as distinct from the sector to the north of Verdun, where they are assailed simultaneously from the north, northeast, east and southeast.

Apparently the Germans are developing an attack similar to that employed frequently with marked success against the Russian fortified positions in the campaign of last summer. Their tactics were to bend back the Russian lines on both sides of the selected point of attack and compel evacuation of the fortress itself.

RUSSIANS TAKE PERSIAN CITY OF KURMANSIAH BY STORM

LONDON, February 26.—A Reuter dispatch from Petrograd says that the Russians have taken by storm Kermanshah, the important Persian city, in the neighborhood of which serious fighting has recently taken place.

An official dispatch from Tehran, published yesterday, said that after a series of battles in the mountain passes, as a result of which the Russians captured a considerable quantity of booty, the Turks, who had been aided by Germans, had retreated towards Kermanshah. Kermanshah is 250 miles southwest of Tehran, and has a population of about 20,000. The routes from Bagdad, Shuster, Isfahan, by way of Hamadan, and Suleimaniyah meet there, and make the city an important center of traffic.

The Russian operations in Persia, which have culminated in the capture of Kermanshah, have had the local purpose of putting an end to the activities of hostile mountain forces and organized bands of Kurds, and it is believed that they have the broader scope of preparing the way for a junction of the Russians with the British expeditionary forces in Mesopotamia. The movement of the Russians from Hamadan southwestward to Kermanshah brings them now to within 150 miles of Kut-el-Amara, on the Tigris, where General Townshend's British force, which was ascending the river for the conquest of Bagdad, is besieged by the Turks.

GERMANS WITHOUT REGARD FOR THEIR SACRIFICES

PARIS, February 26.—The Germans are continuing their violent attacks north of Verdun without regard to their sacrifices. The War Office announced this afternoon.

The German attacks in the region of Douaumont, east of the Meuse, have allied the War Office said, notwithstanding repeated attacks and tremendous slaughter.

The text of the statement follows: "The fighting is still being carried on bitterly in the region north of Verdun, where the enemy continues his efforts on the front to the east of the Meuse. After the last engagement, our troops retained their positions, in spite of the repeated assaults of the enemy, which no longer counts his sacrifices."

"In the region of Douaumont the battle, which is still raging, has taken on a most sanguinary character."

On the front of the Woëvre the advance post which we held as lines of observation from Ornes to Heuvelot since the battles of last year, have been attacked by infantry forces from both sides of the Meuse. Our artillery on both right and left banks of the river

repulses without ceasing to the bombardment of the enemy.

"Nothing of importance has occurred on the remainder of the front."

FURTHER INFORMATION AWAITED ANXIOUSLY

LONDON, February 26.—The only word concerning the German claim to taking the armored fortress of Douaumont outside of Verdun, comes through German sources. Further information is awaited anxiously, owing to the recognized strategic importance of this fort, which is the base of solid field works on a line of hills 1,000 feet high, about six miles northeast of Verdun.

The last detailed information showed the French holding lines two and one-half miles beyond Douaumont, with this powerful fortress and its field works giving steady support.

The Pall Mall Gazette says the French are sustaining an assault consisting in intense and hottest engagements of the entire war.

The Westminster Gazette expresses confidence that the main fortress is impregnable. It predicts that the principal result of the German attack will be tremendous losses, which will cripple the effectiveness of the Germans in subsequent operations.

ADMIT HEAVY LOSSES ARE BEING SUSTAINED

ZURICH, February 26 (via London).—German newspapers received here admit that heavy losses are being sustained in the Verdun offensive, and warn the public against extravagant hopes.

The Frankfurter Zeitung declares that the German regiments are "fighting in a sea of fire."

CENSOR STRIKES OUT NAMES OF GENERALS IN COMMAND

PARIS, February 26.—The defense of Verdun is believed to be under the direction of General —, who is commanding the group of armies of the east, seconded by General —, one of the youngest and most active French generals, who took an important part in the battles in Lorraine before and during the battle of the Marne.

Another of the commanding officers before Verdun is General —, who during the battle of the Marne was in charge of the artillery of the Sixth Corps, while the army of the German Crown Prince was making the first attack upon the fortress. On this occasion a rumor was circulated in Berlin that Verdun had been taken. The general placed three groups of three-hundred men in the Bois de la Vierge, to the east of Verdun, who were ordered to advance until they reached an average distance of seven-eighths of a mile. Then the three groups of field guns opened fire and checked the advance. The losses of the crown prince's army on that day were estimated at 20,000.

The names of the three French generals referred to apparently have been struck out by the French censor.

GERMANS, BEHIND LINES, REHEARSE VERDUN ATTACK

Assemble at Given Spot and Reproduce Exactly Intended Onset.

PARIS, February 26.—The Petit Parisien says that the battle now raging before Verdun was preceded on February 12 by a feint in Champagne, intended to divert attention from the coming attack on Verdun.

A curious feature of the Champagne attack, subsequently used at Verdun, was the rehearsal on a miniature scale about to be delivered. A few days previously the soldiers were ordered to assemble at a given spot, so as to reproduce exactly the intended onset. There was an imitation on a reduced scale of French trenches and other features of the defense works. The scheme had been worked out from photographs of the French lines, and copies of the plan on a scale of 1:500 to 2:500 had been supplied to each soldier.

Several attacks were rehearsed, until the general in charge was satisfied that the attackers knew just what to do. The attack in the Champagne on February 12, which was conducted in three successive waves, failed chiefly because of change of wind, the Petit Parisien says, rendered ineffective a large quantity of asphyxiating gas and flame throwers, which were relied upon for the success of the attack.

"Serious but not disquieting" is the official phrase which is used today in official and parliamentary circles regarding the progress of the Germans in their attack against Verdun.

FRENCH LINE RECTIFIED AS MEASURE OF PRUDENCE

Unaffected by the snowstorm, the Germans hammered away all day Friday at the French line, which, although unbroken at the end of the sixth day of battle, was, however, again rectified as a measure of prudence, the left wing being drawn into Champneville and the right being brought back a little south of Ornes. The new front, barely three miles in length, extends along the heights offering every advantage for defense, and forming one of the most formidable obstacles before the entrenched camp of Verdun.

It is in this narrow space the crown prince is hurling his masses. Military observers express the belief that the counteroffensive will be launched from this line at a precise and decisive moment, and that it will drive back across the ground, already covered with the dead bodies of their comrades, the battalions which are being hurled forward in the most bloody assault which this war has yet seen.

"The work up there is hot indeed," said an officer who has just arrived in Paris from the Verdun battle field. "They are gnawing at our lines a little faster, but with no positive advantage for themselves. Previous attacks made by the Germans in that section are nothing to what they are now delivering. I cannot, of course, give details, but I can say that we are holding well against their formidable attacks. The artillery exchanges are intense. Our batteries, admirably handled, have charged ground in masterly style, and the losses to the enemy are really fabulous. Ours are slight, a feeble percentage of theirs. The Germans are so to speak at the limits of the Argentine and the Meuse, the topography of which constitutes what I might compare to a series of cofferdams. The Germans have been preparing this stroke for a long time. It was in the region of Semellans-Elain that they gathered the bulk of the material for the assault, as they had erected large factories at those points."

DOUAUMONT FOUR MILES NORTHEAST OF VERDUN

One of Cluster of Seven Forts Protecting City From the East.

HUGE ARMY MAKES CONQUEST

Reported Capture Most Important Event Since Inauguration of German Drive, Which Has Few Precedents for Weight of Guns and Men.

Fort Douaumont lies four miles northeast of Verdun. It is one of nearly a score of forts circling Verdun, and is situated just to the north of the railroad running east from the city of Metz.

Douaumont is one of a cluster of seven forts protecting Verdun from the east. Forts De Saulville, De Tavanannes and St. Mihiel lie directly between the position conquered by the Germans and the city of Verdun.

The conquest of this fort was made by the right wing of the huge attacking army, which has scored the greatest advance in the assault on the French positions. Douaumont is somewhat to the east of what has hitherto been the principal line of progress, being situated four miles east of the Meuse River. The main force of the German attack, as indicated by the previous official communications, was being exerted southward along the Meuse.

The capture of Douaumont is the most important achievement since the inauguration of the German drive at Verdun—an onslaught which for fury and for weight of men and guns has few precedents in the war.

FORM ONE OF GREATEST STRONGHOLDS OF EUROPE

The French War Office has expressed confidence that, notwithstanding the admitted great strength of the German drive, Verdun and its protecting fortresses would be able to hold out. These positions form what has been regarded as one of the greatest strongholds of Europe. It is the strongest fortress of France, and is of particular importance from the fact that it offers direct communication with Paris, which is 150 miles to the west. Verdun marks the northern point of the great French defenses against direct attacks from German territory, the most southerly being Belfort, as between these two points lies the stretch of frontier on which Germany touches France. France has other fortified forts farther north, although of minor importance, as they were along the line of contact with Belgium and Luxembourg. The most important probably of these latter was Mauberge, which was taken by the Germans, with sacrifices to them, estimated at the time in September, 1914, as between 50,000 and 100,000. Since that date no important fortress has fallen to the Germans on the western front. At the same period a desperate effort was made to reduce Verdun, and some of the incidents of the fighting which then occurred were of a memorable character.

BODIES OF 7,000 GERMANS ABANDONED ON SLOPES

During the siege of Fort Trogon, near Verdun, in September, 1915, the commander of the fort ceased to reply to the bombardments. The Germans, it was said, believing that the fort had been evacuated, approached in order to destroy a redoubt. The commander of the fort then set fire to two carloads of straw inside the structure, and the Germans, convinced that their shells had started the fire and that they could easily take the place, advanced in close formation. The French suddenly brought their machine guns to bear with a deadly fire, and the bodies of 7,000 Germans were said to have been abandoned on the slopes below Fort Trogon.

A dispatch from London of yesterday's date said that Major-General Sir Francis Lloyd, general officer commanding the London district, in a speech at the opening of the military building, declared that the battle before Verdun was of momentous importance to Great Britain as well as to France.

"Do you realize," he asked, "that a fight is now going on for a passage to Paris? The result will hang in the balance until the Teuton is driven back, as I have great confidence he will be. But if our allies have pierced the way will be open to the French capital, and if that capital is reached, a new complexion would be put on the whole face of the war and on our lives and being. A German success on the French front would not merely mean the loss of Paris, but would endanger London."

Charged With Disorder. Policemen, Water and Clocks yesterday arrested W. M. Gray on a charge of being drunk and disorderly on the street. A charge of resisting the officers was entered against Gray at the Second Precinct Station also.

ITCHY SALT RHEUM

Sometimes Called Eczema—Removed by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Salt rheum is one of the worst and unfortunately one of the most common of all diseases. How it reddens the skin, itches, oozes, dries and swells, and then does this all over again! Sometimes it covers the whole body with inflamed, burning patches and causes intense suffering, which is commonly worse at night.

Local applications may do some good, but they cannot permanently relieve. The disease will continue to annoy, burn and perhaps agonize, until the blood has been purified and the general health improved.

Ask your druggist for Hood's Sarsaparilla, the good old reliable family remedy. It has given perfect satisfaction in thousands of cases. It is not a substitute for Sarsaparilla, for no substitute acts like it. Get it today.

Thrifty and Prosperity

Save your money. The Savings Bank is the place to teach thrift. Start an account with us and earn compound interest.

Savings Bank of Richmond
Saves As National Banks
1117 E. Main St.

LONDON HEARS REPORTS THAT VERDUN HAS FALLEN

Not Generally Credited, but Possibility of Capture Widely Discussed in City.

OFFICIAL NEWS IS LACKING

Developments of Great German Offensive Dominate News Columns, and Newspapers Weigh Possibilities of Teutonic Success.

BY W. OILTON TEWSON.

LONDON, ENGL., February 26.—London seethed to-night with rumors that the great fortress of Verdun had fallen. The newspaper offices were besieged by inquiries, but in the absence of official news, even from Berlin, which had hurriedly announced in a special message the storming of Fort Douaumont, there were many skeptics, although the possibilities of the capture of Verdun were widely discussed in the West End clubs and the hotel smoking-rooms.

The general opinion was that, if after five days of the most violent fighting, only one outer fort had been stormed, it would have been practically impossible, in view of the character of the inner defenses, which are considered impregnable, and the fact of the French massing huge forces of reserves there, for Verdun itself to have succumbed so speedily.

Some significance was, however, attached to the silence of the French afternoon communique regarding the loss of Fort Douaumont, but this was explained to some extent by a later French wireless, which declared that under the violence of the powerful and uninterrupted bombardment, it was impossible to increase the density of the troops without causing excessive sacrifices.

It was this statement which is believed to have been the origin of the rumor that Verdun had met the fate of other great fortresses.

WEIGH POSSIBILITIES OF GERMAN SUCCESS

The developments of the great German offensive dominate the news columns in all the papers, which eagerly weigh the possibilities of ultimate success for the Germans.

For example, the Globe says: "The Germans are endeavoring to repeat at Verdun the tactics carried out last summer by von Mackensen last spring on the Danube. The Germans then concentrated on a short front huge numbers of men and guns."

"The French think, as we think, that if the attempt fails, that failure will be decisive, but they are wisely prepared for the worst."

"We would be better satisfied if in England also there were less disposition to count upon certainties where all is uncertain."

CAN GAIN BY PAYING DISPROPORTIONATE PRICE

The Pall Mall Gazette says: "It is within the power of any beligerent to effect gains of around by paying a disproportionate price. Neither France nor her allies will pay undue significance to the fact that the invader is forcing his way nearer Verdun, but the violence of the onslaught might almost suggest that Germany will pay anything for a resounding achievement. With preparations corresponding to such a resolve, she could

DR. KILMER'S SWAMP-ROOT PROVES ITS GREAT VALUE IN THE MOST DISTRESSING CASES

Kidney Trouble Wears You Out

I had kidney and stomach trouble for several years and lost over 40 pounds in weight; tried every remedy that I could and got no relief until I took Swamp-Root. It gave me quicker relief than anything that I ever used. I now weigh 185 pounds and am singing the praises of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root and recommending its use to all who have stomach and kidney troubles. Respectfully yours, E. C. MENDENHALL, McNeil, Arkansas.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public, this 27th day of March, 1916.

Prove What Swamp-Root Will Do For You

Send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample size bottle. It will convince anyone. You will also receive a booklet of valuable information, telling about the kidneys and bladder. When writing, be sure and mention the Richmond Sunday Times-Dispatch. Regular fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles for sale at all drug stores.

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Sterling Silver Pieces

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Weddings and Anniversaries

The stamp of distinction and charm surrounds the gift selected here.

Gifts are displayed in unequalled variety, which raises your selection above the level of limited assortments.

We invite special attention to the advance display of

Ten Sets Serving Trays Vases
Coffee Sets Vegetable Dishes Baskets
Pitchers Sandwich Plates Comporters

We also show many patterns of PLATWARE, which range from the single Olive Fork to the Chest of several hundred pieces.

We maintain a special department for the collection and selection of family silver, and this intelligent service is at your command.

Visitors are always welcome.

Schwarzschild Brothers

RICHMOND'S LEADING JEWELERS,
Second and Broad Streets.

Prize Awards for School Tablet Top Contest

FIRST PRIZE—Pope Hartford Corbin Coaster Brake Bicycle. Won by Master William Goode, 116 North Twenty-ninth Street, city.
SECOND PRIZE—Prenonette Junior Camera. Won by Master Thos. A. Crooks, 1126 Bainbridge Street, South Richmond, Va.
THIRD PRIZE—Fair Ball-Bearing Roller Skates. Won by Master John Stewart, 802 North Twenty-sixth Street, city.

In addition to the above, we awarded ten special prizes for the next ten largest number of covers entered.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

We are very much gratified by the interest shown, and again inaugurate a new contest to start immediately and continue until February 15, 1917. The same tablet tops, to-wit: Flag School Tablets (16 sizes); Flag Examination Tablets, Seal of Virginia Tablets, Jefferson Examination Tablets, and John Marshall High School Pencil Tablets will be in the contest, and the same prizes noted above will be given to the three children turning in the largest number of covers.

SAVE YOUR TABLET TOPS—THEY ARE MONEY.

SOUTHERN BARGAIN HOUSE
Wholesale Distributors of School Supplies,
Fourteenth and Franklin Streets.

and just blasted their way through. The result was the Russian retreat.

"This method necessitates simply a frightful loss of life, the attacking troops being indeed used as so much cannon fodder."

"It succeeded on the Danube because the Russians were outclassed by both in guns and shells."

"Whether the success will be repeated at Verdun, where the French are as fully equipped in all respects as their enemy, is quite a different matter."

"If, as we suspect, this is the final offensive against France, we must be prepared for such a desperate attack upon ourselves. The German navy will not come out until the end is in sight, and the gamblers' throw must be made to cover the raid upon England."

The Evening News, alluding to the fall of Fort Douaumont, says: "The news is unpleasant and unexpected. The famous Brandenburg Corps ranks with the Prussian Guard in driving force, and is one of the Kaiser's dearest favorites."

STRENGTHENED BY TROOPS FROM RUSSIAN FRONT

The Westminster Gazette mentions that the crown prince's army was strengthened by five corps for the great effort against Verdun and by new troops drawn from the Russian front.

"This fact," it goes on, "brings home the necessity the Germans are under to make their attack now if they wish to decide matters in the west before spring makes it possible for Russia to move in full strength in the east."

"If the blow fails, Germany will be so much less able to hold up the weight of the Russians."

The Evening Standard says: "France is fighting grimly, with a full knowledge of the consequences of failure, and with no enervating optimism, such as has been the bane of this country."

"The French think, as we think, that if the attempt fails, that failure will be decisive, but they are wisely prepared for the worst."

"We would be better satisfied if in England also there were less disposition to count upon certainties where all is uncertain."

CAN GAIN BY PAYING DISPROPORTIONATE PRICE

The Pall Mall Gazette says: "It is within the power of any beligerent to effect gains of around by paying a disproportionate price. Neither France nor her allies will pay undue significance to the fact that the invader is forcing his way nearer Verdun, but the violence of the onslaught might almost suggest that Germany will pay anything for a resounding achievement. With preparations corresponding to such a resolve, she could

not fail to make a certain indentation."

The Star says: "This is the first occasion in the western warfare where battering-ram tactics have been carried through with so great a measure of success."

"The outer French lines north of Verdun had been strengthened to a point, as it was thought, of impregnability, and neither men nor shells were lacking."

"The German success is the outcome of sheer overwhelming force and exceptionally able handling of reserves."

GLASS CHALLENGES HOUSE INSURGENTS

(Continued from First Page.)

Women want. They want this country to withdraw its protection from American citizens under threats from a foreign nation to slaughter them on the high seas, contrary to the accepted practices of civilized countries. They want us to change international usages because a foreign nation threatens to outrage these usages. They want us, without ships of our own, to close our ports to the ingress and egress of friendly foreign ships, thus paralyzing the industrial and commercial life of this nation and prostrating its agricultural activities, through fear of being compelled to vindicate the human and property rights of the nation.

That is precisely what the President does not want; it is exactly what many of us confidently believe that the House of Representatives would be ashamed to sanction, and when the gentlemen who think they can discredit the President shall attempt the exploit they will find some of us quite ready for the fight."

HEFLIN NAMES COMMITTEE

Will Frame Resolution for Investigation of New York Cotton Exchange.

WASHINGTON, February 26.—A committee to represent the cotton-growing States in the framing and introduction of a resolution in Congress for the investigation of the New York Cotton Exchange, and to draft a bill for the regulation of cotton exchanges in the United States, was appointed to-day by Representative Heflin, as the result of the conference of cotton State members on Thursday night. The committee is as follows: Representatives Heflin, Alabama, chairman; Jacobway, Arkansas; Clark, Florida; Vinton, Georgia; Watkins, Louisiana; Davenport, Oklahoma; Eagle, Texas; Stone, Tennessee; Doughton, North Carolina; Aiken, South Carolina; Candler, Mississippi; Russell, Missouri; Hayden, Arizona, and Kettner, California.

offer a new one--

The Junior Norfolk,

\$2.50

Juvenile Wash Suits

for tots all over Virginia

95c to \$3.50

Sworn and subscribed to before me, a Notary Public, this March 31st, 1916.

Sam T. Millard.

Without FEAR OR FAVOR

This is a phrase of Robert Louis Stevenson. It represents the condition a man's mind OUGHT to be in ALL THE TIME.

All good Americans want to be able to walk about in the sun and not to FEAR anybody, and they want to be able to live in comfort and not ask FAVORS of anybody.

The surest means to attain this state of mind is to have money in the UNION BANK OF RICHMOND, VA.

A savings account in the UNION BANK will be a SHIELD to protect you from the arrows of POVERTY, and it will be a support to protect you from the NEED of asking help.

THE UNION BANK of Richmond, Va.

1104 East Main Street.
THE OLDEST and STRONGEST SAVINGS BANK IN THE SOUTH.
Interest on Deposits.

Can There Be

any doubt of the importance of making a WILL in your individual case?

It is not a question that concerns SOME persons, it concerns EVERY person of property.

Ascertain through a confidential conference with our officers, just how "THE SAFEST EXECUTOR" can safeguard your interests and the interests of your heirs.

No charge is made for this information, and you incur no obligation in seeking it, from the strong, reliable

Old Dominion Trust Co.

The Strongest Trust Co. in the South Atlantic States.
Capital and Surplus, Two Million Dollars.
900 East Main Street.